

**THE INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION  
INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE (IERC) MEETING  
Indiana Government Center-South Conference Room 1& 2  
302 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
November 13, 2006 @ 1:00 p.m.**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Cliff Wojtalewicz called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

**ROLL CALL TO ORDER**

Cliff Wojtalewicz — State Government	Bruce Palin — State Government
Dean Larson, PhD — Public	Robert Reilley — Industry
Sherman Greer — Local Government	Bernie Beier — Local Government
Mike Bigler — State Government	James Pridgen — Industry
Michael Pace — Industry	

The following Commission members were absent:

Thomas Melville — State Government	Carol Shelby — Public
William Reed — Public	

The following staff members were present:

Laura Steadham — IDEM	Ian Ewusi — IDEM/IDHS
Bradley Gavin — IDHS	Dolly Watkins — IDHS

The following were members of the audience that were present:

Becky Waymire, Morgan County LEPC	Ed Rock, Kosciusko County EMA
Jeff Larimore, Marion County LEPC	Gary McDaniel, Kosciusko County LEPC
Arlea McDaniel, Citizen	

**QUORUM**

The IERC Council Coordinator conducted a roll call and it was determined a quorum was present.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Wojtalewicz called for consideration of the September 11, 2006 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Dean Larson and seconded by Mr. Mike Bigler to accept the minutes without amendment. Following no discussion, and after a unanimous vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Mr. Wojtalewicz reported that the IERC is looking for a Local government representative to replace C. R. Brown. A couple of individuals were asked if they were interested and they have respectfully declined. Therefore, a couple of other individuals are in the process of being contacted and there will be an update at the next IERC meeting.

Mr. Wojtalewicz stated that if anyone has someone that they would like to recommend to replace C. R. Brown, contact Dolly Watkins and those persons will be taken into consideration.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Communications Committee — Mr. Sherman Greer, Chair**

Mr. Greer reported that the Communications Committee did not meet and the October 2006 EMAI conference was very well attended and the feedback that was received is that it went very well.

Mr. Wojtalewicz stated that he was there for the opening ceremonies and congratulated everyone who put it together.

### **Technical Committee — James Pridgen, Chair**

Mr. James Pridgen reported that the Technical Committee did not meet. Mr. Pridgen reminded the members that the Commission has not held an off site retreat in a couple of years and that he will be sending some information to the IERC members with two or three suggested dates.

### **Policy Committee — Dean Larson, Chair**

Mr. Dean Larson reported that the Policy Committee had met and has four items of discussion. First, the Policy Committee was contacted by Floyd County recommending approval to use their funds under Category 7 to assist the New Albany Fire Department that had requested funding for sonar GPS Unit to use in a craft. A sonar unit would have been able to easily locate the barges at the bottom during the last barge incident. The Policy Committee believes this would be an appropriate use of Category 7 funds and recommend that Floyd County be allowed to expend their funds under Category 7.

Mr. Dean Larson made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mike Bigler to allow Floyd County LEPC to expend their funds under Category 7 for partial support of funding of a sonar GHPS unit for the New Albany Fire Department. Following no discussion, and after a unanimous vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Second, the Elkhart County LEPC received a letter from a firm called Nature's Way Animal Rescue Rehabilitation, Incorporated. Elkhart County would like to be allowed to recognize this Nature's Way Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc. as a responder in a HAZMAT incident involving hazardous materials and animals. Currently, they cannot respond as an organization, they have to respond through the fire department. The Policy Committee believes that this request should go under the state law for spiller pays time, and the Policy committee has asked Attorney, Brad Gavin, to look into that, whether that it is appropriate. Mr. Larson stated that he is going to contact the Elkhart County LEPC and tell them that this request is really not an IERC-type approval, however, the policy Committee will get back with them after checking the state law.

Third, the Policy Committee discussed the Ethics policy in regards to the LEPCs. After the EMAI conference there were several people that were exercised about the issue of whether in fact LEPCs are correctly identified as a special state agency. The Policy Committee proposes to the Commission that Ian, Brad and Dean will draft a letter from the Policy Committee to the LEPCs affirming the fact that they are under the State Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion. Mr. Gavin mentioned that the Ethics Commission, looked at a couple of different issues that IDHS brought before them, and the issue that involves perhaps the IERC specifically, and the Ethics Commission did look at whether or not LEPC members were special state appointees, the Ethics Commission determined, that they were, in this particular Ethics Commission opinion. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Dolly Watkins send out an mail to the LEPCs stating that questions about the applicability of

LEPCs as a special state appointee is still under study, and the IERC will plan to act on this during the IERC meeting in January.

Fourth, C.R. Brown has volunteered to be a member of the Policy Committee.

#### Training Committee — Bernie Beier

Mr. Bernie Beier reported that Training Committee did meet and discussed the approved training list of who can train the LEPCs. It is a very subjective process, so the Training Committee would like to move from being subjective to objective. Mr. Beier will meet with Joline Scott and IDHS to ensure that state policy is being followed and put together a guidance/direction list and post it to the IDHS website, so that each LEPC can clearly see what it takes to get on the list.

#### Fiscal Committee — Chair Vacant

Mr. Wojtalewicz stated that there is still a need for a volunteer to chair the Fiscal Committee.

Mr. Bruce Palin made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. James Pridgen to adopt all the Committee reports and recommendations as presented. Following no discussion, and after a unanimous vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Bruce Palin reported that IDEM is working with Access Indiana to try and get the fee waiver for the electronic submittal of the Tier II report information via the Web waived. IDEM has received approval to have that fee waived. IDEM will continue to accept all three methods of reporting, hard copy, and through Tier II submit. Mr. Palin stated that the IDEM staff will put together a one-page background send it out to the LEPCs and post it on the Web that describes what it does, how easy it is to access. Mr. Ian Ewusi mentioned that he would be attending a Region 5 meeting in Chicago discussion issues like this one and he would be able to see what other states are doing and he will report those findings at the next IERC meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **REPORT OF THE FIELD COORDINATOR**

Mr. Ian Ewusi reported that all the 2005-2006 LEPC records, along with the LEPC roster members have been entered into the database. Sixty-seven (67) LEPCs met the 2005 requirements and has received their 2006 funding and Ian stated that he is working with two (2) additional counties bringing the total number funded in 2006 to sixty-nine (69). Twenty-two (22) LEPCs are non-compliant because they have reported no activities or have turned in partial activity reports.

Mr. Ewusi stated that he cannot attend all of LEPCs meetings but has put together a calendar with the District meetings he will be attending and the list has been provided to the LEPCs.

Mr. Ewusi stated that he has received a lot of requests for Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) training and will be working in the near future to conduct that training.

Mr. Dean Larson asked Mr. Ewusi if it is possible to go through the whole list, identify the LEPCs not funded in 2006, and request that an LEPC who shares a common border and who has received funding to assist. There can be a letter that is sent asking "Would you be willing to help us try to help that county next to you?" If we get more two-county combinations perhaps it would cut this list of LEPCs who are not funded way down.

Mr. Wojtalewicz stated that he mentioned this concept during his open remarks at the EMAI conference and he certainly echoes what Mr. Larson said.

### **MEMBERSHIP ROSTER APPROVALS**

Mr. Ian Ewusi reported there were thirteen (13) LEPCs that submitted their rosters for approval:

Adams	Boone	Clarke	Dearborn	Delaware	Dubois	Fountain
Hamilton	Jay	Lake	Shelby	Warrick	Wells	

Mr. Dean Larson made a motion to approve the submitted rosters, and Mr. Sherman Greer seconded it. Following no discussion and after a unanimous vote **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **LEPC COMMENTS**

Mr. Gary McDaniel the Kosciusko County LEPC extended an invitation to the IERC for Kosciusko County LEPC to host and IERC meeting. Mr. Wojtalewicz thanked Mr. Daniel for the invitation and stated that perhaps in the spring or summertime.

Ms. Becky Waymire, the Morgan county LEPC asked that if every time the roster changes adding or removing members, does the LEPC need to send in an updated roster? Mr. Brad Gavin answered yes the IERC Committee has to approve the rosters.

Mr. Jeff Larimore, the Marion County LEPC stated at the District 5 meetings it was discussed if the IERC could look into creating a secure portal at the state level so that the districts could work within in terms of disseminating information to the LEPCs within their district. Instead of having ten different district Web sites all designed by different people doing different things, if we came up with one model template, with the state being the keeper of that Web site, it would then allow the participating districts to go in and define user groups, post county plans, have discussions between the disciplines in each district such as public health, EMA, fire, hospitals, etc. District 5 looked at a company that did some Web site development for our industry partners, and the cost was a little bit more than District 5 wanted to spend.

Mr. Wojtalewicz commented that IDHS is in partnership with some IUPUI students who will be completely revamping the IDHS Web page, perhaps the same model -- or use that group to help redesign the IERC Web page and provide the districts a model. Is that kind of what you're talking about? MR. LARRIMORE: Yeah. What we have the cities that are involved with a very similar project, the Federal DHS provides a portal for the locals to use, and that's kind of what I was looking at. It provides the structure, and then we can make a little bit of modifications, but not very much, but it allows -- it kind of sets us up some space on

### **EPA COMMENTS**

None

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be in Indianapolis IGC-S on Monday, January 8, 2007 at 1:00 P.M.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On behalf of Eric Dietz, Mr. Wojtalewicz thanked everyone for attending the meeting and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Dean Larson and seconded by Mr. Robert Reilley to adjourn the meeting. Following no further discussion, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Wojtalewicz thanked everyone again for coming and wished them a Happy Thanksgiving.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 2:04 P. M.**

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Cliff Wojtalewicz, IDHS Proxy Chair